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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 5

130 SOUTH DEARBORN ST.

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60604

Mr. Steve Bemis
Masco Corporation
21001 Van Born Road
Taylor, Michigan 48180

US EPA RECORDS CENTER REGION 5



466518

Re: Inspection at Burns Cold Forge, Minerva, Ohio

Dear Mr. Bemis:

In reference to our phone conversations, I am writing this letter regarding the anticipated scope of information gathering to be conducted at Burns Cold Forge, Minerva, Ohio, in March, 1988.

Burns Cold Forge is known to have generated RCRA hazardous wastes. Prior to 1978, waste oils were stored in a pit or pits. The pit(s) were in close proximity to Little Sandy Creek and were in direct contact with the soil. This activity poses a possible environmental and human health hazard. Entry onto Burns Cold Forge in Minerva, Ohio, is needed to determine the need for a response under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 ("CERCLA"), as amended in 1986, by PL 99-499, 42 USC §§ 9601 et seq. CERCLA § 104 (e) authorizes the EPA to enter Burns Cold Forge at a reasonable time, to require Burns' employees to furnish the EPA information requested, and to inspect and obtain samples at this site.

Mr. Cliff Florczak of Ecology and Environment is going to be the team leader at the Burns Cold Forge inspection. It is anticipated that the information gathering at the site will be completed in one day, weather permitting. The investigation team will want to interview a representative of Burns Cold Forge. For an idea of the questions to be asked, you can refer to the form Tom Kouris of Ecology and Environment sent to Gary Blaisman. Questions asked will concern, but not be limited to: methods of disposal at the site, any use of outside contractors for disposal, copies of invoices, manifests for disposal of wastes, both hazardous and non-hazardous, analyses of wastes treated or transported or disposed, material safety data, all permits relating to waste (such as NPDES), and any spill problems from your or neighboring sites which

might have an impact upon Burns Cold Forge.

The inspection shall also include a visual inspection, entailing either a walk-about or drive around the entire site. The main area of the inspection will be near the lagoon(s) which were used for waste storage until 1972, but will not be limited to this area. If EPA investigators see something they deem worth inspecting, they have the authority to inspect the area and will do so.

Composite soil/sediment samples will be taken from at least several areas on the property. In performing composite soil/sediment samples, usually from twenty-four to thirty-two sub-surface samples are taken from each location to be tested, and then from this group, four samples are randomly selected to be sent to our laboratories for analysis. As I indicated in our phone conversation, you have a right to request that we split our samples with you to enable you to run your own analyses; however, you must so notify the EPA in writing before the investigation. As the EPA needs at least one month advance notice of when to conduct the inspection so as to make arrangements with our laboratories, your follow-up letter would be a convenient way to inform EPA of your decision regarding sample-splitting. EPA investigators must photograph the site and the area of any sampling. Investigators may wish to enter buildings to observe production processes.

We encourage Burns Cold Forge's co-operation with the EPA. I need to receive your unconditional consent to this inspection in writing by February 8, 1988. If you have any further questions, feel free to phone me at # 312-886-6731.

Sincerely,

Jerome Kujawa

Jerome Kujawa
Assistant Regional Counsel

cc: Mr. Cliff Florczak